United Nations E/CN.6/2003/L.2/Rev.1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
12 March 2003

Original: English

**Commission on the Status of Women**
**Forty-seventh session**
3-14 March 2003
Agenda item 3
**Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"**

**Angola, Benin, Cape Verde,* Ghana,* Israel,* Mali* and Mexico: revised draft resolution**

## Women, the girl child and human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS)

*The Commission on the Status of Women,*

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the development goals contained therein, in particular the aim of the Member States to have halted, by 2015, and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS;[1]

*Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution S-26/2 of 27 June 2001, entitled "Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS", adopted at its twenty-sixth special session, held in New York from 25 to 27 June 2001,

*Welcoming* General Assembly resolution 57/299 of 20 December 2002, entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS",

*Recalling* the agreed conclusions adopted at its forty-fifth session, entitled "Women, the girl child and human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS)",[2]

* On behalf of the Southern African Development Community and in accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] See General Assembly resolution 55/2, para. 19.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 1* (E/2001/99), resolution 2001/5.

03-27914 (E) 120303

*Recalling also* its resolution 46/2 of 15 March 2002, entitled "Women, the girl child and human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS)",

*Recognizing* that HIV/AIDS is also a humanitarian crisis and constitutes a global emergency, and that it disproportionately affects women and girls who are socially, culturally, biologically and economically more vulnerable, and emphasizing that violence against women and girls can increase their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS and aggravate the conditions fostering the spread of HIV/AIDS,

1. *Stresses* that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are fundamental elements in the reduction of their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS, and emphasizes that the advancement of women and girls is key to reversing the pandemic;

2. *Reaffirms* the need for Governments, supported by relevant actors, including civil society, to continue to implement the commitments on HIV/AIDS contained in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[3] and to work towards effectively reflecting in their national policies and strategies the gender dimension of the pandemic, in line with the time-bound goals of the Declaration;

3. *Urges* Governments to take all necessary measures to empower women and strengthen women's economic independence, and to protect and promote their human rights and fundamental freedoms, in order to allow them to protect themselves from HIV infection;

4. *Calls upon* Governments to develop and accelerate the implementation of national strategies that promote the advancement of women and women's full enjoyment of all human rights and promote the shared responsibility of men and women to ensure safe sex and empower women to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, in order to increase their ability to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS infection;

5. *Welcomes* the financial contributions made to date towards the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and urges further contributions to sustain the Fund, in fulfilment of paragraph 80 of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,[3] and also calls upon all countries to encourage the private sector to contribute to the Fund;

6. *Calls upon* all countries to take measures to ensure that the necessary resources are made available, particularly from donor countries, and also from national budgets, in line with paragraph 80 of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS;

7. *Encourages* the continued collaboration and cooperation of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and other United Nations agencies and programmes and other international organizations to address and reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS, in particular in the context of emergency situations and as part of humanitarian efforts, and to address the growing links between HIV/AIDS and other programmes, including humanitarian programmes;

[3] General Assembly resolution S-26/2.

8. *Welcomes* the ongoing work by the United Nations system in providing widespread information on the gender dimension of the pandemic and raising awareness about the critical intersection between gender inequality and HIV/AIDS;

9. *Calls for* enhanced efforts by all relevant actors to include a gender perspective in the development of HIV/AIDS programmes and policies and in the training of personnel involved in implementing such programmes, including through focusing on the role of men and boys in addressing HIV/AIDS;

10. *Urges* Governments to continue to promote the participation and the significant contribution of people living with HIV/AIDS, young people and civil society actors in addressing the problem of HIV/AIDS in all its aspects;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in his reports on HIV/AIDS, to take a gender perspective into account.